

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-47 (Canceled).

Claim 48 (Currently Amended): A method for controlling network devices via a home network, the network devices being connected to said home network via different protocol standards, comprising:

generating icons of the network devices having a plurality of functions regarding a reproducing and/or recording of an audio/video signal and menus including the functions which are operable with the associated network device;

at least partially displaying the generated icons with a hierarchical structure so as to show a relationship of network connections of the network devices in the home network;

receiving a selection of a network device by a user selecting one of the displayed icons;

selectively displaying the menu of a selected network device, the menu including the functions which are operable with the selected network device;

receiving a selection of a function in the selectively displayed menu; and

controlling the network device to execute the selected function based on a respective one of the protocol standards,

wherein the execution of the selected function results in a data stream of an audio/video signal stored in a providing network device being sent from the providing network device to the selected network device via the home network.

Claim 49 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 48, wherein said network devices include all compatible devices that are connected to the home network.

Claim 50 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 48, wherein said home network, further includes one or more sub-networks integrated into said home network via a bridge.

Claim 51 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 48, wherein at least partially displaying the icons with a hierarchical structure further includes organizing the icons according to the kind of sub-networks connected to said network.

Claim 52 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 48, wherein the selected function in the displayed menu is a “send to” function.

Claim 53 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 48, further comprising selecting a providing network device.

Claim 54 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 53, further comprising selecting an audio/video signal stored on the selected providing network device.

Claim 55 (Currently Amended): A controller including a man-machine interface for controlling network devices via a home network, the network devices being connected to said home network via different protocol standards, comprising:

means for generating icons of the network devices having a plurality of functions regarding a reproducing and/or recording of an audio/video signal and menus including the functions which are operable with the associated network device;

means for at least partially displaying the generated icons with a hierarchical structure so as to show a relationship of network connections of the network devices in the home network;

means for receiving a selection of a network device by a user selecting one of the displayed icons;

means for selectively displaying the menu of a selected network device, the menu including the functions which are operable with the selected network device;

means for receiving a selection of a function in the selectively displayed menu; and

means for controlling the network device to execute the selected function based on a respective one of the protocol standards,

wherein the execution of the selected function results in a data stream of an audio/video signal stored in a providing network device being sent from the providing network device to the selected network device via the home network.

Claim 56 (Currently Amended): The ~~method~~ controller according to claim 55, wherein said network devices include all compatible devices that are connected to the home network.

Claim 57 (Currently Amended): The ~~method~~ controller according to claim 55, wherein said home network, further includes one or more sub-networks integrated into said home network via a bridge.

Claim 58 (Currently Amended): The ~~method~~ controller according to claim 55, wherein means for at least partially displaying the icons with a hierarchical structure further

includes means for organizing the icons according to the kind of sub-networks connected to said network.

Claim 59 (Currently Amended): The ~~method~~ controller according to claim 55, wherein the selected function in the displayed menu is a “send to” function.

Claim 60 (Currently Amended): The ~~method~~ controller according to claim 55, further comprising means for selecting a providing network device.

Claim 61 (Currently Amended): The ~~method~~ controller according to claim 60, further comprising means for selecting an audio/video signal stored on the selected providing network device.

Claim 62 (Currently Amended): A computer readable medium having computer readable program code[[,]] stored thereon ~~in a tangible storage medium, providing for causing a computer to provide~~ a man-machine interface for controlling network devices via a home network, the network devices being connected to said home network via different protocol standards, the computer readable medium ~~the program~~ comprising executable instructions that cause a computer to:

generate icons of the network devices having a plurality of functions regarding a reproducing and/or recording of an audio/video signal and menus including the functions which are operable with the associated network device;

at least partially display the generated icons with a hierarchical structure so as to show a relationship of network connections of the network devices in the home network;

receive a selection of a network device by a user selecting one of the displayed icons;

selectively display the menu of a selected network device, the menu including the functions which are operable with the selected network device;

receive a selection of a function in the selectively displayed menu; and

control the network device to execute the selected function based on a respective one of the protocol standards,

wherein the execution of the selected function results in a data stream of an audio/video signal stored in a providing network device being sent from the providing network device to the selected network device via the home network.

Claim 63 (New): A method for controlling network devices via a home network, the network devices being connected to said home network via different protocol standards, comprising:

generating icons of the network devices having a plurality of functions regarding a reproducing and/or recording of an audio/video signal and menus including the functions which are operable with the associated network device;

at least partially displaying the generated icons with a hierarchical structure so as to show a relationship of network connections of the network devices in the home network;

receiving a selection of a network device by a user selecting one of the displayed icons;

selectively displaying the menu of a selected network device, the menu including the functions which are operable with the selected network device;

receiving a selection of a function in the selectively displayed menu; and

controlling the network device to execute the selected function based on the respective protocol standard.

Claim 64 (New): The method according to claim 63, wherein said network devices include all compatible devices that are connected to the home network.

Claim 65 (New): The method according to claim 63, wherein said home network, further includes one or more sub-networks integrated into said home network via a bridge.

Claim 66 (New): The method according to claim 63, wherein at least partially displaying the icons with a hierarchical structure further includes organizing the icons according to the kind of sub-networks connected to said network.

Claim 67 (New): The method according to claim 63, wherein the selected function in the displayed menu is a "send to" function.

Claim 68 (New): The method according to claim 63, further comprising selecting a providing network device.

Claim 69 (New): The method according to claim 68, further comprising selecting an audio/video signal stored on the selected providing network device.